

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 87

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: Liz A. Mortensen

PRESENT POSITION artist/writer/secretary

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: October 24, 1958; Chicago, Illinois

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: Crafts (jewelry)

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.):

(no formal training)

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

Left Bank Arts Association Inaugural Exhibition
Cleveland, Ohio; 1987

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

none at present.

AWARDS:

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

I started making jewelry because I love jewelry. I have drawers full of old costume jewelry! I love to make jewelry out of strange or unusual components—safety pins for example—so that when the piece is finished, it doesn't look like what it was. One of my pieces is a collar woven from wire with washers & beads →

attached to it. The wires look & behave like colored threads & the washers look like big flat beads. The end result looks nothing like the components - that's what I'm striving for.

Jewelry was an easy choice of medium for me. What other art form can you wear around all the time? I've always worn jewelry - I can't remember a day I haven't worn some type of jewelry item. When I make a piece & then wear it, it becomes more than just my creation - but the best thing is when someone else wears one of my pieces! That's a real compliment!

P.S. Thank you for selecting me to be in the May Show!
It's an honor!